

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 CA-01 HA-05 L-03 H-02 SSO-00
SY-05 USSS-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8148

UNCLAS KINGSTON 6688

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, ASEC, JM (GREENE, RALPH B.)
SUBJECT: W/W - KIDNAPPING OF RALPH B. GREENE

1. GREENE, RALPH B.
2. BORN WASHINGTON, D.C., JANUARY 8, 1917.
3. NUMBER UNKNOWN, BUT HAS ONE ISSUED ABOUT 1972.
4. IN CARE OF LOUIS BERGER INTERNATIONAL, INC., EAST ORANGE, N.J. (CONSTRUCTION COMPANY).
5. MR. GREENE, A CONSULTING ENGINEER, EMPLOYED BY COMPANY LISTED ABOVE, UNDER CONTRACT TO THE JAMAICAN MINISTRY OF WORKS, WAS ABDUCTED FROM HIS HOME AT 5 GREENVALE AVENUE, MANDEVILLE, MANCHESTER, JAMAICA, ABOUT 1400 HOURS, NOVEMBER 9, 1977 BY AN ARMED ROBBER. HE WAS RELEASED, UNHARMED, BY THE BANDIT ABOUT 2 1/2 HOURS LATER, AT THE RAILROAD LINE NEAR MILE GULLY.
6. MR. GREENE, WHO SPOKE WITH CONOFF TODAY, STATED KIDNAPPER WAS A YOUNG MAN (AGE 20-21) WHO HAD ROBBED HIM AND HIS WIFE AT THEIR HOME, AT GUNPOINT, AT ABOUT 1315 HOURS; LOCKED THEM IN BATHROOM FOR ABOUT 3/4 HOUR; THEN
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- ORDERED MR. GREENE TO CARRY "BOX OF THINGS HE FOUND AROUND THE HOUSE" AND DRIVE HIM AWAY. AMONG ITEMS STOLEN WERE J\$200 AND MR. AND MRS. GREENE'S WATCHES. MR. GREENE STATED INDIVIDUAL REPEATEDLY DEMANDED "GUNS", WHICH HE PRESUMED GREENE HAD IN THE HOUSE. GREENE HAS NO WEAPON.
7. CONOFF NOTIFIED ABOUT 1655 HOURS BY GREENE'S COLLEAGUE,

ROGER FRAIL, OF KINGSTON OFFICE OF LOUIS BERGER INTERNATIONAL, ABOUT KIDNAPPING. DURING TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH CONOFF (ABOUT 1755 HOURS), MRS. VIRGINIA GREENE, WIFE OF VICTIM, WAS NOTIFIED OF HER HUSBAND'S RELEASE AND SAFETY.

8. SKETCHY DETAILS FURNISHED BY MRS. GREENE AND SUPERINTENDENT ALLEN OF MANDEVILLE POLICE YESTERDAY WERE AMPLIFIED BY SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT GERMAINE, OFFICER IN CHARGE OF MANDEVILLE DIVISION OF JAMAICAN CONSTABULARY FORCE (JCF) AND MR. GREENE TODAY.

9. GREENE STATED YOUNGMAN DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS "UNEMPLOYED FOR FOUR YEARS, WANTED BY POLICE, AND HUNGRY." GREENE BELIEVES HE WAS NOT TARGETTED AN AMERICAN, BUT AS AFFLUENT PERSON LIVING IN LARGE, ISOLATED HOUSE. ALTHOUGH GREENES HAVE A MAID, GARDENER, AND DOG, WHO WERE AROUND GROUNDS AT TIME OF INCIDENT, ALARM WAS NOT GIVEN FOR

ABOUT TWO HOURS (BY MRS. GREENE AFTER SHE WAS RELEASED FROM LOCKED BATHROOM BY GARDENER). SHE ATTRACTED MAID'S ATTENTION FROM BATHROOM WINDOW, WHO BROUGHT GARDENER TO FORCE ENTRY TO HOUSE AND BATHROOM. TELEPHONE LINE HAD BEEN CUT SOME DISTANCE FROM HOUSE. ALPART (ALUMINUM) SECURITY FORCES RESPONDED TO ALARM BELL SOUNDED BY MRS. UNCLASSIFIED

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GREENE ABOUT 1600 HOURS.

10. POLICE TRACED ABDUCTOR TO SOUTHERN EDGE OF "COCKPIT COUNTRY" (MOUNTAINOUS, WOODEN TERRAIN) WHERE HE EVIDENTLY ABANDONED TRAIN HE HAD BOARDED AT MILE GULLY. SEARCH CONTINUES ON FOOT IN THAT AREA.

11. GREENES ARE CONTEMPLATING RETURNING TO THE US IN VIEW OF INCIDENT.

12. COMMENT: EMBASSY AGREES WITH MR. GREENE'S EVALUATION OF INCIDENT -- THAT THERE WAS NO OTHER APPARENT MOTIVE THAN CRIMINAL INTENT TO ROB AND TERRIFY GREENES TO PREVENT EARLY SEARCH BY AUTHORITIES. MR. GREENE COMMENTED TO CONOFF THAT, HAD HE NOT MAINTAINED COOL DEMEANOR DURING ABDUCTION, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED, ESPECIALLY IF ABDUCTOR FELT THREATENED OR IN ANY WAY THWARTED. IRVING

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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